



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PLUG POWER AWARDED \$1.8M CONTRACT BY THE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

LATHAM, N.Y. – July 22, 2004 – Plug Power Inc. (NASDAQ: PLUG) was recently awarded a \$1.8 million contract by the U.S. Department of Defense for the Common Core Power Production Program.

The U.S. Air Force is seeking long-term acquisition of modular, deployable power generation and distribution systems, which include fuel cells. This program will help develop application and integration platforms for a variety of stationary and light mobility applications for the U.S. military. The objective is to develop power generation equipment that can be acquired through standard Air Force acquisition processes.

“We are very pleased with this opportunity to work with the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,” said Mark Sperry, Plug Power Chief Marketing Officer. “We are always looking for more applications to apply our core technology and are excited about the possibilities brought by the Common Core Power Production Program.”

Under this Program, a total of 15 GenCore® systems will be placed in both fielded demonstration programs and laboratory test programs to develop and validate application requirements for integration into infrastructure support systems.

Additionally, this program will also fund Plug Power research and development and integration activities addressing deployable power. These activities will expand the market application of Plug Power’s GenCore product platform and provide value in both military and commercial applications.

Plug Power expects to receive approximately \$1.8 million in cash during this one-year program, which is being funded by the U.S. Air Force, Advanced Power Transformation Office, and managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research and Development Center.

About Plug Power

Plug Power Inc. designs and develops on-site energy systems based on proton exchange membrane fuel cells. Plug Power's strategic partners include GE Fuel Cell Systems, DTE Energy Technologies, Vaillant GmbH, Honda R&D Co., Ltd., Engelhard Corporation and Celanese Ventures. The Company's headquarters are located in Latham, N.Y., with offices in Washington, D.C., and The Netherlands.

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This press release may contain statements, which are not historical facts and are considered forward-looking within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements contain projections of Plug Power's future results of operations, Plug Power's product development expectations or of Plug Power's financial position or state other forward-looking information. In some cases you can identify these statements by forward-looking words such as "anticipate," "believe," "could," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "should," "will" and "would" or similar words. You should not rely on forward-looking statements because Plug Power's actual results may differ materially from those indicated by these forward-looking statements as a result of a number of important factors. These factors include, but are not limited to, Plug Power's ability to develop commercially viable on-site energy products; the cost and timing of developing Plug Power's on-site energy products; market acceptance of Plug Power's on-site energy products; Plug Power's reliance on its relationship with certain affiliates of General Electric (GEFCS); Plug Power's ability to perform on its multi-generation product plan in a manner satisfactory to GEFCS; Plug Power's ability to manufacture on-site energy products on a large-scale commercial basis; competitive factors, such as price competition and competition from other traditional and alternative energy companies; the cost and availability of components and parts for Plug Power's on-site energy products; the ability to raise and provide the necessary capital to develop, manufacture and market Plug Power's on-site energy products; Plug Power's ability to establish relationships with third parties with respect to product development, manufacturing, distribution and servicing and the supply of key product components; Plug Power's ability to protect its intellectual property; Plug Power's ability to lower the cost of its on-site energy products and demonstrate their reliability; the cost of complying with current and future governmental regulations; the impact of deregulation and restructuring of the electric utility industry on demand for Plug Power's on-site energy products; fluctuations in the trading price and volume of Plug Power's common stock and other risks and uncertainties discussed under the heading "Factors Affecting Future Results" in Plug Power's annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, dated March 11, 2004 and filed with the Securities Exchange Commission on March 11, 2004, and the reports Plug Power files from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Plug Power does not intend to and undertakes no duty to update the information contained in this press release.